Department has sanctioned new projects covering 62 lac ha. in 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, as against new projects covering 52 lac ha. during four years from 1995-96 to 1998-99. The budget allocation of the Department of Land Resources has been increased from Rs. 324 crores in 1999-2000 to Rs. 900 crores in 2001-2002.

The Guidelines for Watershed Development have been revised, effective from 1.9.2001, to provide for greater role to Panchayati Raj Institutions, a Twin Track Approach, an Exit Protocol and provision for availing the credit facility from financial institutions to ensure higher value addition to the interventions.

The cost norms for the Watershed Development Projects under the three Programmes have also been enhanced to Rs. 6000/- per ha. from the earlier cost norms ranging from Rs. 3000/- to Rs. 5000/- per ha. w.e.f. 1.4.2000.

Keeping in view the commitment for ongoing watershed projects and budget allocations 166 DPAP projects and 80 DDP projects have been sanctioned for the Programme Districts in Andhra Pradesh during 2001-2002. In addition, 200 Watershed Projects have been sanctioned under Andhra Pradesh Rural Livelihoods Projects aided by the Department for International Development, U.K. Each project covers 500 ha. approximately. In addition, 9 new projects have also been prioritised for sanction under IWDP for covering an area of 50,000 ha. during the year.

Allocations under Drought Prone Areas Programmes

2548. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to different States under Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount spent by each State of the amount released to them under DPAP;

(c) the year-wise details thereof; and

(d) The specific work undertaken under DPAP in the drought effected in Orissa in these years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) to (c) Under the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), funds are not allocated to the States, but are released to the Programme districts on project to project basis. A watershed development project taken up under the programme is required to be completed over a period of five years and funds are released for its completion in seven instalments. The first instalment is released along with the sanction of the project. Thereafter, each subsequent instalment is released on receipt of specific proposal from the district concerned subject to the condition that at least 50% of the last instalment released has been utilised. Thus utilisation of funds of an earlier instalment is ensured at the time of release of subsequent instalment. Statement indicating funds released during the last three years state-wise is enclosed (*See* below).

The specific works undertaken under DPAP in the programme areas in Orissa during the last three years were mainly construction of tanks, water harvesting structures, renovation of wells, gully control structures, diversion bunds, water delivery channels, contour bunding, road side plantation, tree plantation, live fencing, kitchen garden package, mango plantation, cashew plantation, mushroom cultivation, pasture development, etc.

Statement

Funds released during the years 1998-99 to 2000-2001

STATE	1998-99	999-2000	2000-2001
Andhra Pradesh	22.91	26.71	27.60
Bihar	2.38	2.30	1.00
Chattishgarh	included in	Madhya Pradesh.	6.81
Gujarat	7.77	8.79	14.27
Himachal Pradesh	0.52	0.90	2.47
Jammu and Kashmir	0.40	2.20	3.69
Jharkhand	included	in Bihar	6.87

STATE	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Karnataka	9.08	8.02	14.26
Madhya Pradesh	8.83	14.02	24.96
Maharashtra	5.52	6.45	18.99
Orissa	2.75	0.46	6.82
Rajasthan	1.74	3.86	9.81
Tamil Nadu	2.73	8.27	9.09
Uttar Pradesh	8.39	10.93	18.38
Uttranchal	included in Uttar Pradesh.		3.24
West Bengal	0.00	2.09	1.35
Total	73.00	94.99	189.58

Projects for providing funds to women's self-help groups in Andhra Pradesh

2549. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: (a) whether Government propose to sanction 7 Special Projects under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana for providing revolving fund assistance for women's self-help groups in 22 District of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) if so, the details of the proposal sanctioned;

(c) whether necessary funds for the projects have been released, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, when it is expected to be released?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (d) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh had submitted seven project proposals for providing revolving funds assistance for women's self help groups in 22 district of the State under the Special Project component of the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY). The Project Approval Committee (PAC), however, while considering the project proposal of East Godawari and West Godavari district, felt that the State Government may be advised to approach the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to provide